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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
1920 L Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036
(202) 835-9555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 14, 1985 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 5 totaled an estimated 12.1 billion ton-miles, 14.1 percent below the corresponding week of 1984, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Carloadings in the week ended January 5 totaled 262,255, down 13.4 percent from last year, and 12.2 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 19.7 percent in the East, 6.0 percent in the South, and 14.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 20 of 21 commodity groups decreased. Eighteen of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding week, with coal showing a gain of 11,710 cars (15.1 percent).

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended December 29 totaled 35,449 cars, up 6.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1984, and 57,506 trailers and/or containers, 2.5 percent below last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the 52 weeks of the year was a record 2,690,659 cars, 14.6 percent higher than last year, and 4,569,094 trailers and/or containers -- also a new high -- up 11.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 01/05/85:

	Loadings in Week ended Jan. 05, 1985		Change from Corresponding Week 1984			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	17,999	D	10,723	37.3	I	1,025	5.7
Other farm products	3,435	D	765	18.2	I	429	12.5
Metallic ores	8,139	D	1,272	13.5	I	102	1.3
Coal	77,667	D	4,658	5.7	I	11,710	15.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	6,868	I	663	10.7	I	1,038	15.1
Nonmetallic minerals	9,175	D	120	1.3	I	586	6.4
Grain mill products	8,233	D	1,830	18.2	I	812	9.9
Food and kindred products	7,807	D	1,353	14.8	I	700	9.0
Primary forest products	9,421	D	2,447	20.6	I	2,648	28.1
Lumber and wood products except furniture	4,039	D	1,128	21.8	D	177	4.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,451	D	257	2.0	I	3,193	25.6
Chemicals and allied products	19,622	D	1,403	6.7	D	178	0.9
Petroleum products	3,559	D	507	12.5	I	169	4.7
Stone, clay and glass products	7,299	D	570	7.2	I	572	7.8
Coke	4,073	D	356	8.0	I	537	13.2
Metals and products	6,150	D	1,098	15.1	I	1,194	19.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	10,544	D	3,135	22.9	I	2,868	27.2
Waste and scrap materials	5,174	D	1,522	22.7	I	724	14.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	4,148	D	2,297	35.6	D	308	6.9
All other carloads	36,315	D	5,913	14.0	I	916	2.5
LCL traffic	137	D	36	20.8	I	46	33.6
Total Cars Loaded	262,255	D	40,727	13.4	I	28,606	12.2
Corresponding week of 1984	302,982						

Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):

	1985	1984	% Change
Week ended January 5	12.1	14.1	D 14.1

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